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Report of the Secretary-General concerning the credentials of the alternate representative of the Russian Federation on the Security Council

Pursuant to rule 15 of the provisional rules of procedure of the Security Council, the Secretary-General wishes to report that he has received a note verbale dated 28 June 2006 from the Permanent Mission of the Russian Federation to the United Nations stating that Vladimir Y. Zheglov has been appointed alternate representative of the Russian Federation on the Security Council.

In the opinion of the Secretary-General, that note verbale constitutes adequate provisional credentials.

06-41476 (E) 300606

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Letter dated 29 June 2006 from the Permanent Representative of the Islamic Republic of Iran to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to enclose herewith a letter from Mr. Manouchehr Mottaki, Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Islamic Republic of Iran, addressed to you, on the ongoing aggression against Palestinian civilians.

I would be grateful if you could arrange for the circulation of this letter and its annex as a document of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) M. Javad **Zarif**

06-41490 (E) 030706

Annex to the letter dated 29 June 2006 from the Permanent Representative of the Islamic Republic of Iran to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I wish to draw your kind attention to the most recent military campaign by the Zionist regime against the innocent Palestinian people, which goes on in flagrant defiance of the most basic principles of international law and the fundamental provisions of the Charter of the United Nations.

As media reports indicate, the ongoing incursion into northern Gaza targets civilians and purely civilian infrastructures, destroying among other things the three bridges and disabling the only power plant, thus depriving civilians of basic necessities. Moreover, the intruding forces are battering northern Gazan towns with artillery and firing missiles into residential areas indiscriminately.

The illegal detention of dozens of Palestinian cabinet ministers and members of the Palestinian Parliament by the intruding forces are clear signs that the occupying regime is intent on rendering the democratically elected Palestinian Government inoperative.

Violating Syria's airspace and threatening to hit targets inside that country is equally perturbing. The crisis, if unchecked, may tip towards escalation, engulfing the whole region.

With the Palestinian economy already broken down under an embargo since January and the Palestinians remaining under siege even after the occupiers' withdrawal from Gaza, the new aggression threatens to inflict further enormous suffering on civilians and exacerbate the situation within the Palestinian territory and in the region.

While strongly condemning this latest Zionist criminal act, we consider the aggression that targets civilian infrastructures as collective punishment and war crimes and crimes against humanity in defiance of international humanitarian law. We believe that it is imperative for the international community to get more effectively involved and prevent the Zionists from carrying out their terrorist designs against the Palestinians. The impunity with which they have so far been allowed to carry out their crimes has undoubtedly emboldened them to continue on the same path.

The United Nations has an important role to play in this regard and should act with a view to preventing the Zionist regime from continuing to flout the will of the international community, incorporated in numerous United Nations resolutions. As the ongoing aggression threatens international peace and security, we request that the Security Council carry out its responsibility in accordance with the letter and spirit of the Charter of the United Nations and take necessary and prompt steps with a view to putting an end to the aggression. In my view, your personal intervention should, as always, help prevent the situation to slip out of control.

(*Signed*) Manouchehr **Mottaki**
Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Islamic Republic of Iran

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Letter dated 30 June 2006 from the Secretary-General addressed to the President of the Security Council

With reference to Security Council resolutions 1575 (2004) of 22 November 2004 and 1639 (2005) of 21 November 2005, I have the honour to convey to you the attached letter dated 22 June 2006, which I received from the Secretary-General and High Representative for Common Foreign and Security Policy of the European Union, transmitting the report on the activities of the European Union military mission in Bosnia and Herzegovina (EUFOR), covering the period from 1 March to 31 May 2006.

I should be grateful if you would bring the present letter and its annex to the attention of the members of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Kofi A. **Annan**

06-41499 (E) 050706

Annex

Letter dated 22 June 2006 from the Secretary-General of the Council of the European Union addressed to the Secretary-General of the United Nations

In accordance with the provisions of United Nations Security Council resolutions 1575 (2004) and 1639 (2005), I attach the sixth three-monthly report on the activities of the European Union military mission in Bosnia and Herzegovina (EUFOR). The report covers the period from 1 March to 31 May 2006. I would be grateful if you would transmit this report to the President of the United Nations Security Council.

(Signed) Javier **Solana**

Enclosure

Report by the Secretary-General and High Representative of the Common Foreign and Security Policy of the European Union on the activities of the European Union military mission in Bosnia Herzegovina

Introduction

1. This report covers the period from 1 March to 31 May 2006.

2. United Nations Security Council resolutions 1575 (2004) and 1639 (2005) request that Member States, acting through or in cooperation with the European Union (EU), report to the Council on the activity of the European Union military mission in Bosnia and Herzegovina (EUFOR), through the appropriate channels and at least at three-monthly intervals. This document is the sixth such report to the Council.

Political background

3. During this reporting period the general political and security situation in Bosnia and Herzegovina has remained stable and fundamentally unchanged.

4. Discussions on constitutional reform continued. In March, party political leaders concluded a landmark political agreement aimed at streamlining the Bosnia and Herzegovina Tri-Presidency, empowering the Council of Ministers and improving the effectiveness of the Parliament. However, the constitutional reform package ultimately failed to achieve the required two-thirds majority in the Bosnia and Herzegovina House of Representatives on 26 April.

5. On police restructuring, Republika Srpska Prime Minister Dodik withdrew Republika Srpska participation on the Police Directorate Steering Board and Republika Srpska remains only as an observer. It is now uncertain whether the September deadline for producing an implementation plan can be met.

6. Bosnia and Herzegovina continues to make good progress in its negotiations with the EU on a Stabilization and Association Agreement (SAA). The European Commission continues to monitor the progress of Bosnia and Herzegovina on SAA requirements, including cooperation with the International Criminal Tribunal for the Former Yugoslavia and police restructuring.

EUFOR[1] activities

7. EUFOR currently comprises around 6,000 troops, deployed across Bosnia and Herzegovina in three multinational task forces. EUFOR continues to conduct operations in line with its mandate: providing deterrence, ensuring continued compliance in relation to the responsibilities specified in the General Framework

[1] EUFOR currently comprises some 6,100 troops from: Austria, Belgium, Czech Republic, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Netherlands, Poland, Portugal, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Albania, Argentina, Bulgaria, Canada, Chile, Morocco, Norway, New Zealand, Romania, Switzerland and Turkey. Cyprus and Malta also contribute to the common costs of this operation. The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia will contribute from 6 July.

Agreement for Peace, annexes 1A and 2 and contributing to a safe and secure environment.

8. During this reporting period, the main effort of EUFOR has been to assist the local authorities. EUFOR has conducted focused operations in cooperation with local authorities and police and supported operations led by them. Several EUFOR operations have effectively targeted organized crime, particularly illegal logging and fuel smuggling. Routine liaison continues with police and other law enforcement agencies, including the State Border Service and Indirect Taxation Authority.

9. EUFOR continues its weapons collection activities, supported by an effective information campaign and with good cooperation by the local police: in the reporting period 1,129 weapons, 90,989 rounds of ammunition and 1,570 hand grenades and mines have been collected. EUFOR is also continuing to work, in cooperation with the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and local authorities, to identify surplus and unsafe weapons holdings. With UNDP, EUFOR has advised and supervised the clearance of more than 14,000 mortar shells, 700 anti-tank mines and thousands of rounds of ammunition from the Vitezit factory which posed a danger to the surrounding population and a high theft risk.

10. EUFOR continues to play a key part in the overall EU approach in Bosnia and Herzegovina, working particularly closely with the EU Special Representative and with the EU police mission. EUFOR also continues to cooperate closely with NATO Headquarters Sarajevo.

Outlook

11. Looking ahead, the core security situation is expected to remain stable. EUFOR regular activities will continue as before, in close cooperation with local authorities and as part of the comprehensive EU approach in Bosnia and Herzegovina.

12. Pre-election campaigning is under way ahead of the 1 October general election.